

Appl. No. 09/617,450  
Amdt. dated October 1, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of May 20, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, correction was required at numerous places in the specification. The corrections are made in this amendment. The following points are noted. With respect to the German reference, the corresponding USA patent has been inserted so as to overcome the problem raised in Point 6 of the Office Action by providing the same teaching in English. In the mathematics, the letter I (which stands for interval) has been inserted in place of the numeral "1" at numerous locations including those cited by the Examiner. The input legend "6" is an error and has been corrected in the specification to read "E", this symbol being inserted also in Fig. 2 to overcome the problem raised in Point 2 of the Office Action by correction of the drawing. Figs. 2 and 3 have also been amended with legends.

Objections were made to the claims, as set forth in Point 4 of the Office Action. Corrections are made to the claims to overcome these objections.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, the above noted insertion of the corresponding US patent is believed to provide the necessary English language presentation of the teaching of the German reference.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, clarifying amendments have been made to the claims to overcome this ground of rejection.

Claims 1-7 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Donnelly (US 5,945,862) for reasons set forth in the Office Action. Claims 1-7 and 10-12 have been cancelled.

Allowable subject matter was noted in claim 8 and its dependent claim 9. Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form so as to obtain its allowance and the allowance of claim 9.

Correction of the drawing was required (Page 2 of the Office Action), with respect to Fig. 1 (assumed to be Fig. 2) and to Fig. 3. Enclosed are copies of the sheets of drawing for Figs. 2 and 3, marked-up with the required legends as a proposed drawing correction to meet the requirements for correction of the drawing.

In the event there are further issues remaining the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney to reach agreement to expedite issuance of this application.


Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Since the present claims set forth the present invention patentably and distinctly, and are not taught by the cited art either taken alone or in combination, this amendment is believed

to place this case in condition for allowance and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the matter, enter this amendment, and to allow all of the claims in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 1, 2004.

Dated: October 1, 2004

  
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